

# 2018 California Quick Crash Facts

During 2018, California had a total of 195,449 fatal and injury traffic crashes: 3,478 fatal and 191,971 injury. Fatal crashes were lower than 2017 where there were 3,582 fatal crashes. Injury crashes were also lower than 2017 where there were 193,564 injury crashes.

There were 2,043 vehicle occupants killed (excluding pedestrian, bicyclist, emergency vehicle, and bus); of these, 422 were not using safety equipment. There were 222,155 vehicle occupants injured; of these, 8,629 were not using safety equipment.

The number of vehicle occupants killed decreased by 5.9 percent over 2017 and the number of vehicle occupants injured also decreased by .1 percent over the same year.

On average, a fatal or injury traffic crash was reported every 3 minutes.

On average, 1 person was killed every 2 hours and 18 minutes as a result of a traffic crash.

On average, 1 person was injured every 1 minute and 55 seconds as a result of a traffic crash.

Children under the age of 15 accounted for 10.2 percent of pedestrian victims and 9.4 percent of bicycle victims (killed and injured).

For each person killed, there were 72 persons injured.

Speed was indicated as the primary crash factor in 31.3 percent of the fatal and injury crashes.

Fatal truck crashes where the truck driver was at fault have increased from 84 in 2017, to 90 in 2018. Injury truck crashes where the truck driver was at fault have increased from 2,967 in 2017, to 3,098 in 2018.

In 2018, there was no indication of safety equipment use in 56 of the 511 motorcyclist fatalities. Also, there was no indication of safety equipment use in 2,140 of the 14,073 motorcyclist injuries.

In 2017, there were 566 motorcyclists killed and 14,148 motorcyclists injured. Motorcyclists killed in 2018 decreased by 10.6 percent from 2017 and those injured decreased 0.6 percent over that same year. Licensed motorcycle drivers in 2018 decreased 0.9 percent over 2017.

There were 528 motorcyclists involved in fatal crashes, of which 338 were the fault of the rider. This indicates 64.0 percent of motorcyclists involved in fatal crashes were at fault.

Of the 528 motorcyclists involved in fatal crashes, 134 (25.4 percent) were involved in fatal crashes where no other party was involved. The motorcyclist was at fault 97.8 percent of the time in solo motorcycle fatal crashes.

In 2018, alcohol involved fatal crashes decreased 7.0 percent. Persons killed when alcohol was involved also decreased 6.3 percent over the previous year.

Since 2009, the number of licensed drivers in California has increased 14.5 percent. Of the licensed drivers in California, 21.4 percent were under 30 years of age; however, drivers under 30 years of age comprised 31.7 percent of all drivers in fatal and injury crashes. Drivers at fault under 30 years of age comprised 36.8 percent of all drivers at fault in fatal and injury crashes.

Since 2009, California's population has increased 3.6 percent. On average, 1 out of every 10,500 persons living in California was killed in a traffic crash; 1 out of every 145 persons was injured; and 1 out of every 74 licensed drivers was involved in a fatal or injury traffic crash.

As a result of the 3,478 fatal crashes, 3,804 (1,980 drivers, 650 passengers, 997 pedestrians, and 177 bicyclists) persons were killed. This is an average of 1.1 deaths per fatal crash.

There were 1.09 persons killed and 79 persons injured for every 100 million vehicle miles of travel (these are more commonly known as the mileage death and mileage injury rates). Since 2009, the estimated vehicle miles of travel has increased 7.0 percent.

Hit-and-run was indicated in 10.7 percent of the fatal and injury crashes.

In 2018, California did not have a day without a traffic fatality. The last recorded dates or times without motor vehicle traffic fatalities were on June 30, 2015; August 13, 2013; and in 2009 when there were three such days: March 30, June 10, and September 5.